

OT THEME: BACK-TO SCHOOL

Occupational Therapy activities with a back-to-school theme

Possible Materials:

Paper (yellow construction paper, black construction paper, white paper, etc.)
Glue
Scissors
Rocks
Sharpie markers
Google account on a device
Craft sticks
Markers
Pipe cleaners
Beads
Pencil
Salt dough- Very small amount for each student

Books:

The Kissing Hand
Owl Babies

These activities should keep your students (virtual or in-person) busy the first few weeks of school. Some of these activities are great for online icebreaker activities and others are wonderful ways to build rapport while assessing baseline status in areas like pencil grasp, handwriting, math, scissor skills, or other learning/school tasks.

Interactive Slide Deck #1- This interactive back to school slide deck is designed to address visual perceptual skills, with a school supplies theme. Kids will enjoy the back to school supply activities and won't even know they are building skills that will help them thrive in learning. [Click HERE for this slide deck.](#)

Interactive Slide Deck #2- This slide deck has an icebreaker activity, writing prompts (single words lists and sentences- adjust this activity to meet the needs of your students), and a fun "I Spy" game that is getting rave reviews from kids. [Click HERE for this slide deck.](#)

Fine Motor Activities to build rapport- These back to school fine motor activities are fun ways to quickly screen for fine motor skills needed at school while building rapport with the students. [Click HERE for these activities.](#)

Separation Anxiety Activity- After being out of the classroom for a much longer period of time this year, kids might have some worries or separation anxiety that leaves them anxious. Try this separation anxiety activity that uses the children's book, Owl Babies. [Click HERE for this activity that requires no materials.](#)

School Bus Craft- This school bus craft is a simple one to set up and can be done as a group online activity or in person. Record the activity for a recorded session, too. With the simple shapes, the bus craft is great for working on scissor skills, visual motor skills, eye-hand coordination, and problem solving. [Click HERE for this activity.](#)

The Kissing Hand Craft- Play the book The Kissing Hand on YouTube and get ready for a sensory activity to help with transitions into school. Make a batch of salt dough and give each student their own mini batch. The Kissing Hand craft that involved salt dough key chains (fine motor fun!) and be sure to check out the four other Kissing Hand crafts in the blog post, too. [Click HERE for this activity.](#)

Fine Motor Pencil Fidget Tool Craft- This pencil topper fidget is a fun craft for kids but it can double as a fidget tool, too. Making this DIY fidget tool builds fine motor skills with sensory-related benefits. [Click HERE for this activity.](#)

Handwriting Spacing Tools Craft- These spacing tools can be a fun way to get kids invested in spacing between letters and words. Make this spacing tool craft that kids can add to their pencil box and pull out for handwriting tasks. The best news is that making the craft builds fine motor skills too! Try the button spacing tool, the easy craft stick spacing tool, a pipe cleaner spacing tool, or a clothes pin spacing tool, and even a space martian spacing tool craft. [Click HERE for these crafts.](#)

Emotions and Feelings Printable- Talking about feelings on the first day of school (or first weeks of school) is important, especially this year. Grab this social emotional learning worksheet to cover facial expressions and emotions with kids. [Click HERE for this printable worksheet.](#)

Need more back-to-school activities for organization, therapy planning, ice breakers, and more? Check out the full list [HERE](#).